

[ 18 August, 2000]

RAJYA SABHA

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH):

(a) Year	Budget Outlay
1997-98	— Rs. 3 Crore.
1998-99	— Rs. 2 Crore.
1999-2000	— Rs.14 Crore.
(b) No, Sir.	
(c) No, Sir.	

**Closing Down East Coast Railway Zone**

† 2930. SHRI MANMOHAN SAMAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry of Railways is considering to close down the East Coast Railway Zone; and
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, the entire issue of reorganisation of Zones is under review.

**Completion of Hassan-Bangalore Rail Link**

2931. SHRI H.K. JAVARE GOWDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that work on the Hassan-Bangalore New Rail Line in Karnataka is going on very slow; and
- (b) if so, what are the reasons for so much delay in completing the project within the stipulated time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The work on new line between Hassan and Bangalore via Shravanabelgola (166 Kms) is progressing as per the allocation of funds approved in the annual budgets.

The project will be progressed as per availability of resources. No target date has yet been fixed for completion of the project.

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.